



THOU ART PETER AND UPON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH

# St. Peter Church

27551 Volo Village Road, Volo, IL 60073

815-385-5496 | [office@stpetervolo.org](mailto:office@stpetervolo.org)

[www.stpetervolo.org](http://www.stpetervolo.org)

## DECEMBER 24, 2023

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS



### REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

<b>Monday:</b>	6:15 AM Latin*		8:00 AM English	
<b>Tuesday:</b>	6:15 AM Latin*		8:00 AM English	
<b>Wednesday:</b>	6:15 AM Latin*		8:00 AM English	7:00 PM Latin*
<b>Thursday:</b>	6:15 AM Latin*		8:00 AM English	
<b>Friday:</b>	6:15 AM Latin*		8:00 AM English	
<b>Saturday:</b>	8:00 AM Latin*		5:00 PM English	
<b>Sunday:</b>	7:00 AM Latin*		8:30 AM English	10:00 AM English
	11:30 AM Latin*		1:00 PM Spanish	
<b>1st Friday:</b>	6:15 AM Latin*		8:00 AM English	7:00 PM Latin*
<b>1st Sunday:</b>	7:00 AM Latin		8:30 AM English	10:00 AM English
	11:30 AM Latin		1:00 PM Spanish	

*\*The Mass according to the liturgical books of 1962*

FR. NATHAN CASWELL, SJC ..... PASTOR  
FR. DENNIS KOLINSKI, SJC ..... ASSOCIATE PASTOR  
FR. ROBIN KWAN, SJC ..... ASSOCIATE PASTOR  
FR. SCOTT THELANDER, SJC ..... ASSOCIATE PASTOR  
BR. KEVIN MENARD, SJC ..... SEMINARIAN  
BR. MATEUSZ SZYMANSKI, SJC ..... SEMINARIAN  
CHRIS KICHKA ..... OPERATIONS  
CONNIE BALLANTINE ..... CATECHISM & SACRAMENTS  
STEPHANIE BRUNE ..... LITURGICAL MUSIC

*FOR AFTER HOUR EMERGENCIES ONLY - PLEASE CALL (815) 451-8219*



*a parish staffed by the*  
**CANONS REGULAR OF ST. JOHN CANTIUS**

## Welcome New Parishioners

We are pleased to welcome you to St. Peter's in Volo. If you are visiting, we hope that you enjoy your time here and invite you to join us again! If you are interested in joining the parish and becoming a parishioner, you may register quickly and easily by visiting the parish website at [www.stpetervolo.org/registration](http://www.stpetervolo.org/registration).

When registering you will have an option to choose to receive Offertory Envelopes. We encourage all families to utilize these envelopes for making contributions, but also to let us know who is active in the parish, even when not donating. Please note it may take a few months before you begin receiving envelopes.

Please visit [www.stpetervolo.org](http://www.stpetervolo.org) to find much more information about the parish. If you have any further questions, please e-mail us at [office@stpetervolo.org](mailto:office@stpetervolo.org).

## Sacraments

Do you have a newborn to be Baptized? Are you a couple ready to be married? Do you know someone who wants to become Catholic? If so, visit us at [stpetervolo.org/sacraments](http://stpetervolo.org/sacraments) for more information on how to obtain the Sacraments at St. Peter's.

## Confession Times

*The below are Confession start times*

**SUNDAY:** 6:50 AM | 8:15 AM | 9:45 AM | 11:15 AM | 12:45 PM

**WEEKDAYS:** 7:40 AM | 8:30 AM **WEDNESDAY:** 6:30 PM

**SATURDAY:** 7:45 AM | 4:30 PM

## Divine Office

**SUNDAY:** 6:25 AM Matins & Lauds | 2:15 PM Rosary & Vespers |  
6:00 PM Compline

**WEEKDAYS:** 7:15 AM Matins & Lauds | 11:45 AM Mid Day Prayer |  
4:45 PM Rosary & Vespers | 6:45 PM Compline *(when no other events)*

**SATURDAY:** 7:15 AM Matins & Lauds | 11:45 AM Mid Day Prayer |  
4:00 PM Rosary & Vespers | 5:45 PM Compline

## Adoration

**THURSDAY:** 4:30 PM - 9:00 PM

**1ST FRIDAY:** 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM

## Novena to St. Joseph

Join us Wednesdays at 6:45 PM to pray together the Novena to St. Joseph.

## Mass Intentions

The Calendar for 2024 has filled at this time and we're still working through the backlog. If still interested, please visit [stpetervolo.org/masssociety](http://stpetervolo.org/masssociety) to learn about the Canons Perpetual Mass Association.

## Offertory Collection

This bulletin went to print prior to last Sunday's collection.

The total through Online Giving in the month of November was: **\$6,705.00**

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## Mass Intentions

### Monday, December 25th - *The Nativity of the Lord (N/T)*

- 12:00 AM - Novena for Parish Volunteers & Their Families
- 7:00 AM - Quinn Huston by Chris & Jennifer Kichka
- 8:30 AM - † Lechowski Family by Barbara Baran
- 10:00 AM - Greca Family
- 11:30 AM - † Joanne Reinbold by Robert Reinbold
- 1:00 PM - Pro Populo

### Tuesday, December 26th - *St. Stephen (N/T)*

- 7:15 AM - Novena for Parish Volunteers & Their Families
- 9:00 AM - Jonathan Masterson by His Friends & Family

### Wednesday, December 27th - *St. John (N/T)*

- 7:15 AM - Sean Kelly by Kelly Family
- 9:00 AM - † Patti Koczyk Broderick by Susan Kopczyk
- 7:00 PM - Novena for Parish Volunteers & Their Families

### Thursday, December 28th - *The Holy Innocents (N/T)*

- 7:15 AM - † Leonard & Esther Grzenia by Adriene & Gerald Grzenia
- 9:00 AM - Novena for Parish Volunteers & Their Families

### Friday, December 29th - *St. Thomas Becket (N/T)*

- 7:15 AM - Novena for Parish Volunteers & Their Families
- 9:00 AM - † Michael Jackson

### Saturday, December 30th - *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph (N)*

- 9:00 AM - † John Minks by Platta Family
- 5:00 PM - Novena for Parish Volunteers & Their Families

### Sunday, December 31st - *The Holy Family (N) | Sunday in the Octave of Christmas (T)*

- 7:00 AM - † Deceased Members of the D'Amico & Lareau Families by Joseph Lareau Family
- 8:30 AM - Pat Cooksey, Phyllis Corrado, & Marta Kiss
- 10:00 AM - Novena for Parish Volunteers & Their Families
- 11:30 AM - Grace Walker by Susan Walker
- 1:00 PM - Pro Populo

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## Prayer Requests

Julie Bilodeau  
Richard Borman  
Christa Hudson  
Sarah Hudson  
Irene Kenderes

Cynthia LaGraff & Family  
Yvette Mader  
Mendoza Family  
Louie S. & Family  
Kyra Smith  
Bishop Joseph Strickland

Julia Suchomski  
Jason Taylor & Family  
Grace Walker & Family  
Mark Weber  
Valerie Wilk

and for the repose of the souls of David Gibson and David LaGraff

*Names added to the Prayer Requests will remain for 1-month. To add, or re-add, a name to the Prayer Requests please e-mail the Parish Office at [office@stptetervolo.org](mailto:office@stptetervolo.org)*

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### The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

- P. From Bethlehem in Judah, too small to be honored among the clans of Israel, came the new Ruler and Savior, son of David and fulfillment of the promise made to David's house.
- P. The Lord our coming King, has-ten to a-dore Him
- A. **The Lord our coming King, has-ten to a-dore Him**
- P. Lord Jesus, in the mystery of Your incarnation, You revealed Your glory to the world,
- A. **give us new life by Your coming.**
- P. You have taken our weakness upon Yourself,
- A. **grant us Your mercy.**
- P. You redeemed the world from sin by Your first coming in humility,
- A. **free us from all guilt when You come again in glory.**
- P. You sit at the right hand of the Father,
- A. **gladden the souls of the dead with Your light.**
- P. Let us pray. Grant us, O Lord, that the approaching feast of Your birth may fill us with peace and life and may unite us with You and our fellowman in the bond of charity. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
- A. **Amen.**

### Wishing You All a Blessed Christmas

On behalf of the priests and brothers of the Canons Regular, I would like to wish you a Most Blessed Christmas! Thank you all for the many ways that you show support to your parish, your priests, and one another. It would be an impossible task to mention all the people who volunteer in so many ways: in the liturgy, singing and serving, in the restoration of the church, the cleaning of the church, the keeping of the grounds, giving to the poor and showing your love for the Canons Regular. So many of you weekly come from far away to participate in parish life and in the Source and Summit of that life, the Holy Eucharist. I pray that as you come to receive the Christ child this Christmas, that you will be wholly blessed by Him in whom is our Hope.

- Fr. Nathan Caswell, SJC

### Hymns for Sunday

8:30 AM Mass

**Communion: #13**

*Comfort, Comfort, O My People*

**Recessional: #1**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

10:00 AM Mass

**Communion: #1**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

**Recessional: #4**

*O Come, Divine Messiah*

11:30 AM Mass

**Recessional: #1**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

### Propers for Sunday

10:00 AM

**Introit:** Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour. The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims the work of His hands.

**Gradual:** The Lord is close to all who call Him, who call on Him in the sincerity of their hearts. My mouth shall speak the praises of the Lord; let all flesh bless His holy name.

**Alleluia:** Come Lord! Do not delay. Pardon the sins of Your people.

**Offertory:** Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.

**Communion:** Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and His name will be called Emmanuel.

*Chorus Veritatis Splendor, St. Gregory Choir, & Chorus Spes Ecclesiae perform*

### Nine Lessons & Carols

Friday, December 29th | 7:00 PM

*Featuring the music of Franz Biebel, John Rutter, & Tomas Luis de Victoria*

There is no cost to attend, but a freewill donation will be collected in support of our choir program

### Exodus 90

Calling all men of St. Peter's. Be sure to mark your calendars for the start of the next session of Exodus 90, beginning January 1st. Stay tuned, or visit [www.stpetervolo.org/exodus90](http://www.stpetervolo.org/exodus90), for more.

### The St. Nicholas Window

Most people will recognize St. Nicholas of Myra on the next window – if not from his flowing red robes, then from the baskets of food he’s distributing to the poor. The image of Nicholas is deeply ingrained in the Christian imagination and he’s patron of many causes, including children. His legacy has also been conflated over time with imaginary figures: *Sinterklaas*, the Spirit of Christmas Present, Santa Claus. These distort the real man, along with the true meaning of the season, but they’re nevertheless grounded in a certain historical reality.

That Nicholas existed is beyond dispute; his relics now lie in Bari, Italy. Recent forensic reconstruction, using digital imaging of the skull, reveals an elderly man with a kindly face and a badly broken nose – the latter an old injury that might have occurred during the persecutions of Diocletian. Portrayed with a white beard, the face does look remarkably like Santa’s, but the nose gives a much better indication of his true character.

Born into a wealthy Christian family in Patara (now Turkey) around 270 A.D., Nicholas was probably orphaned in his teens. Christians then were barely tolerated by the Romans, but he could have lived comfortably enough, had he chosen to remain a merchant.

His temperament and deep faith led him elsewhere. The famous story of how he secretly threw bags of gold through a window to help three poor girls avoid prostitution actually comes from this early period of his life. It was an imaginative act of generosity that not only set the tone for his future, but laid the foundation for later fictional representations.

Nicholas entered the priesthood and eventually became Bishop of Myra. He was renowned for his affability and charity, as well as for being a fierce defender of the Church. During the worst Roman persecutions, he worked hard to protect his besieged flock. There are many stories about Nicholas helping people and rebuking authority, often in miraculous ways.

In one account, he brings three murdered children back to life. In another, he saves a ship by calming a storm. There’s also plenty to suggest his combative side: it’s said that during the Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D., Nicholas slapped an Arian heretic (possibly even Arius himself). But afterwards he would finally see Christianity safely established in his homeland.

It’s easy to dismiss all these stories as exaggerations. Yet if one compares Nicholas to a saint like Padre Pio, they start to make sense. Both men were miracle workers who drew people to them. Both were warm and sympathetic, but no-nonsense in their attitude towards sin. If they capture the imagination, it’s because God made them larger than life.

In an era when people, especially children, suffer unimaginably, St. Nicholas remains a powerful saint to call upon. His image shines into our church: champion of Christ, bringer of gifts, and protector of the most vulnerable.

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### Mass Offerings for the Nativity of Our Lord & the Christmas Octave

#### Christmas Day — Monday, December 25th

12:00 AM - *English* | 7:00 AM - *Latin* | 8:30 AM - *English*

10:00 AM - *English* | 11:30 AM - *Latin* | 1:00 PM - *Spanish*

*All Masses on Christmas Day according to the 2002 Missal*

#### The Christmas Octave — Tuesday, December 26th - Friday, December 29th

7:15 AM - *Latin* | 9:00 AM - *English*

#### Wednesday, December 27th

7:00 AM - *Latin*

#### Saturday, December 30th

9:00 AM - *Latin* | 5:00 PM - *English*

*Join us for the Blessing of Wine on December 27th after all Masses  
and the Blessing of Children on December 28th after all Masses*

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